

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 04952 151223Z

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

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R 142124Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 688

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 4952

E.O. 11652: ADS DECLAS 12/31/75

TAGS: MARR

SUBJ: VISIT TO U.S. BY STUDENTS OF ESCUELA DE ESTADO

MAYOR

REF: A. RADIO COMMUNICATION COL. TIERO/LTC FRANKLIN-

J5, 10 AUG 73; B. USCINCSO MSG R232250Z JUL 73,

SUB BOLIVIA C/GS TOUR TO CONUS

1. REFERENCE A INDICATES THAT THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE DESIRES THAT THE CLASS BE SENT AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE EVEN THOUGH REF B INDICATES DEPARTMENT OF ARMY FEELS JANUARY IS THE BEST MONTH FOR SUCH A VIST.

2. AT THE REQUEST OF THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE, COMUSMILGP VISITED GENERAL VIA SOLIZ, SUBSECRETARY TO MOD, WHO GAVE THE FOLLOWING REASONS FOR SCHEDULING AN EARLY VISIT FOR SUBJECT GROUP.

A. THE JANUARY DATE WOULD BE OUT OF THE QUESTION SINCE THE OFFICERS WILL HAVE GRADUATED AND WOULD BE ON THEIR NEW ASSIGNMENTS.

B. HE INDICATED THAT THE BOLIVIAN ARMED FORCES ARE CERTAINLY ON THE SIDE OF THE UNITED STATES AND THEY WANT TO SHOW THESE OFFICERS "THEIR FRIENDS FROM THE NORTH" BEFORE SENDING THEM TO A NEW ASSIGNMENT.

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C. THERE IS CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL FERMENT IN THE ARMED FORCES IN THE MORE JUNIOR RANKS AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME. THERE ARE STRONG NATIONALISTIC AND SMALLER FAR-LEFTWING INPUTS INTO THIS FERMENTATION PROCESS THAT HAVE ANTI-US.S. OVERTONES. THE MOD BELIEVES IT WOULD BE VERY USEFUL TO SHOW THIS GROUP OF OFFICERS, WHO COME FROM THE CENTER OF CURRENT POLITICAL ACTIVITY IN MILITARY CIRCLES (COCHABAMBA), SOME ASPECTS OF THE REAL WOULD OUTSIDE BOLIVIA. IN DOING SO, HHE BELIEVES THE POSITION OF THE MODERATES WOULD BE STRENGTHENED AT A KEY POINT IN TIME.

3. THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES AND THE COUNTRY TEAM CONCUR WITH THE EVALUATION OF THE MOD EXPRESSED IN THE ABOVE PARAGRAPH AND REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO MEET THE REQUEST OF HE MINISTER OF DEFENSE TO SCHEDULE A VISIT OF THIS CLASS IN EARLY OCTOBER. A LATER TIMEFRAME WOULD MISS THD OPPORTUNITY FOR MAXIMUM PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT DURING THE INTERNAL DEBATES NOW TAKING PLACE AMONG THE YOUNG OFFICER GROUPS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY (BUT ESPECIALLY IN THE COCHABAMBA AREA).
BREWIN

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